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Innovative Parole Board Project
Garners Third National Award

TRENTON – For the third time, an innovative New Jersey State Parole Board (SPB) project helping to protect police throughout the Unites States has earned a national award.

The SPB's "Supervised Release File Project" received a 2016 "Dig IT" award for "Discovery & Innovation in Government" from "Government Computer News (GCN)" at the publication's annual ceremony last week outside Washington D.C. https://gcn.com.

The honor marks the third time the project, developed in partnership with the NJ State Police, Division of Criminal Justice and Office of Information Technology has been honored by a national organization. The project was previously awarded a 2016 Technology Solutions Award by the national Public Technology Institute and the 2016 GMIS "G2" Award in the category "Government-to-Government."

SPB Chairman James T. Plousis and Chief Information Officer Jeremy Jedynak were on hand for the awards ceremony.

"Once again, the work of the State Parole Board has been recognized not only for its value to New Jersey, but nationwide. For more than a year, law enforcement officers all over the Unites States have been made safer by the great work of the employees of the board," Plousis said.

The project, which went live in September of 2015, alerts police nationwide in real time when they encounter one of the more than 15,000 individuals under parole supervision in New Jersey. The innovation links the National Crime Information Center (NCIC,) administered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and available to virtually all law enforcement agencies in the country, with the SPB's Parole Board Information System. ,

With the innovation, an officer anywhere in the nation can get near instant notification - often via computer in their patrol vehicle - that an individual he has made contact with is on parole in New Jersey. The system also immediately notifies the parole officer in New Jersey responsible for that parolee and facilitates contact between the two agencies.

Since the system went on line nearly a year ago, the SPB has received dozens of notifications daily from agencies around the country.

According to GCN, the Dig.IT Awards celebrate discovery and innovation in government information technology. "Winners in each category were selected partly for their use of technology, but largely for the creativity with which it was applied to a critical government mission," GCN said in announcing the awards. There were 36 finalists.

The SPB project was funded by grants of $318,000 from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, awarded by the state Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) Policy Advisory Committee, and $190,000 from the Parole Board.

The award-winning project team included:

Jeremy Jedynak, CIO, SPB
Dennis MacPherson, IT Infrastructure Supervisor, SPB
Willie Gray, IT Infrastructure, SPB
Dean Ivins, IT Applications Supervisor, SPB
Daniel Lebak, IT Applications, SPB
Lt. David Quigley, NJSP State Bureau of Identification
William Gronikowski, NJSP System Design Unit
Timothy Bishop and John Rakowski, Office of Information Technology
Oliver Fisse, IBM Consultant